METHODS, DEVICES AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCTS USING A NODE AFFILIATION PROTOCOL FOR MONITORING AND/OR CONTROLLING NETWORKABLE DEVICES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Communication between a networkable device, such as a UPS, and a supervisory device, such as a PDA or cellphone configured to monitor and/or control the UPS, is managed. An affiliation request message is transmitted from the networkable device, the affiliation request message requesting an affiliation request response from another networkable device. An affiliation request response status for the transmitted affiliation request message is determined. The networkable device is transitioned to an affiliation state responsive to the determined affiliation request response status. The networkable device and the supervisory device communicate based on the affiliation state. For example, in some embodiments, if at least one affiliation request response message identifying a second networkable device is received, the networkable device is transitioned to a governed state with respect to a second networkable device, and the first networkable device and the supervisory device communicate via the second networkable device responsive to the governed state of the first networkable device.